

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for taking the time to discuss the subject application in a telephone conference.

The specification has been objected to and claims 1-3, 6-10 and 12-14 have been rejected under §35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The claims have been amended to obviate the Examiner's objection and rejection.

The claims have been amended to more fully claim and disclose the invention. The amended claims are not directed to a device for switching on and powering discharge lamps. The device is comprised of at least a current limiting device, at least a square wave generator, at least an igniter, at least two high tension connection cables, at least a lamp holder with at least a discharge lamp coupled. The igniter comprising at least a high tension transformer and at least an overlapping transformer, the device being characterised in that the at least an igniter is divided into a first stage of the igniter, or pulse generator transformer, and the high tension transformer. The first igniter stage, or pulse generator transformer, and the high tension transformer are assembled along with the above mentioned components. The device includes a lamp holder housing such that said first igniter stage is fixed on the bottom of the lamp bottom housing. The current limiting device module is connected by two reduced section cables to the first stage of the igniter, or pulse generator transformer. The current limiting device module and at least a first stage of the igniter, or pulse generator transformer, are subjected to movement and/or traction.

None of the prior art references include a device wherein the first igniter stage is fixed on the bottom of lamp holder housing. All of the prior art references separate the igniter from the

lamp and the lamp holder. Typically, the igniter was placed in a separate housing, such that during discharge, i.e. the lamp switching on phase, the high voltage was separated from the lamp. The Applicants have found that the igniter, lamp and lamp holder can all be placed in one housing, to make a much more effective product.

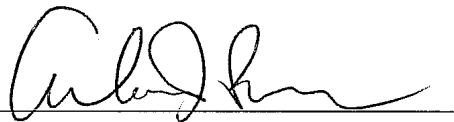
Additionally, the claims have been amended to incorporate at least two overlapping transformers. This has not been shown in the prior art devices. The Applicants' invention is also directed to incorporating toroidal core transformers as the overlapping transformers. These devices have not been shown in the prior art references.

In view of the foregoing it is believed that the amended claims and the claims dependent therefrom are in proper form. Thus, claims 1-3, 6-10 and 12-16 and are considered to be patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record and should be allowed.

The application is now considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early indication of same is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any further extension and/or fee that is required to Deposit Order Account 19-0079.

Respectfully submitted,



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